

Matrimony or Army---Which?

By Dorothy Dix

WHICH would you rather do--get married, or serve twenty-five years in the army? Would you rather walk the colic, or walk the sentry-path for that length of time?

This is the decision that will be up to young Frenchmen if the bill which has been drafted by Dr. Lannelongue, and countersigned by a score of eminent Frenchmen, is passed. The bill, which has already been introduced into the senate, provides that every man who is unmarried at the age of twenty-nine will be called upon to fulfill a series of extra periods of military service until he has been for twenty-five years in active service.

This is the heroic way in which it is proposed to fight race suicide in France and combat what is called "the gradual death of the French nation." The gay bachelor is no longer going to be permitted to flit from bed to bed. He is going to be conscripted, as it were, into matrimony.

Of course, in this country, where we still retain the marrying habit, and where the baby crop is always a bumper crop, no such drastic measures are necessary to drive men into the holy estate. However, it is one thing to marry, because you are under the illusion that matrimony is a return to the Garden of Eden, to be called upon to choose marriage as the lesser of two evils, and not since Stockton propounded the riddle of "The Lady or the Tiger?" has there been so interesting a conundrum submitted to us as this bill that calls a man a choice between twenty-five years' service in the army or a life term at matrimony.

One can imagine the man who is approaching his twenty-ninth birthday sitting down to argue out the question. "Alas," he says to himself, "I can no longer dilly-dally with love and marriage; the time has come when I must either lead a bride to the altar, or myself be led away by the recruiting sergeant. Which shall it be?"

The military career has no attractions for me, for I am a quiet and peaceful man, but neither has domesticity for me any charms, for I am one who loves his freedom. I am aware that the life of the soldier in times of peace is a dull and monotonous one, and the idea of spending the next twenty-five years in going over and over again, day after day, and month after month, and year after year, the same deadly routine is enough to drive me to suicide.

"But if I pass up the soldier's life and espouse matrimony what do I gain? Is not matrimony also deadly monotonous? Is it not also a treadmill

wherein one goes round and round, seeing forever the same face across the breakfast table, hearing the same complaints, watching for the same squint in the eye, fed on the same boiled mutton and potatoes, everything the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow?

"The chief horror of military service is that it will deprive me of my personal liberty. I can no longer go and come as I please, after I am drafted into the army. There will be no more little rascals for me. No more staying out at night,



IN MATRIMONY HE WOULD HAVE A MARTINET OF A WIFE OVER HIM. no more wandering around at my own sweet will. I must arise at a certain hour, and eat at a certain hour, and so to bed at a certain hour. I must keep within bounds.

"It ticks my very soul to think of this, but will I escape this bondage by marriage? I trow not. I observe that my married friends do not dare to stay downtown at night without first hastening to a telephone booth, and making elaborate and mendacious excuses for their absence from the domestic hearthstone. I also observe that when these men do linger for a dinner, and perhaps, a little game with some of their old friends, that they appear next morning with a meek and chastened air, as of those who have been severely dealt with and disciplined.

"I likewise notice that after a man is married he eats the kind of food that his wife likes, he entertains his friends and not his own in his house; he goes into the society which she prefers and not the kind that he would choose; he even wears the kind of clothes that she picks out, and so I argue from this that there is no man who is less a free agent than the married man, and that there is mighty little choice between being confined in barracks and being confined in the home. If I become a soldier I shall have a superior officer, who can order me about

at pleasure, whose commands I must take and whom I cannot strike, no matter with what contumacy and insult he uses me.

"But when a man marries does he not get a commanding officer in his wife, and one that he dare not strike, no matter how much he would like to upon occasion? Yes, verily. The wife in most families not only issues the orders, but she is a martinet that enforces discipline with the flat of her tongue in a way that makes the poor, humble private of a husband jump to obey.



"Of course, if I become a soldier I may have the chance of doing some grand and heroic deed; but if I become a husband shall I not also have the chance of having heroism almost thrust upon me? What is the courage that leads a forlorn hope, or risks a life to rescue a comrade, or to save the flag, compared to that which endures a lifetime of the nagging and fault-finding of a silly and ill-tempered wife? All of us know that when the real hero medals are dealt out they should not go to some glittering creature in gold lace and bedizened uniform, but to the quiet, hump-shouldered man who has endured thirty or forty years of matrimonial purgatory.

"Again, if I become a soldier there is always the possibility of glory and fame, but if I marry there is also the hundred-to-one shot that I may get as a wife the capital prize in the matrimonial lottery, and be happy ever after. If I become a soldier there is a time limit to my service--matrimony has none, barring death or divorce, upon neither of which I can count. Embroidery also is compulsory in the army and compulsory matrimony balances each other and leave me wondering which I shall I choose--twenty-five years in the army or to be a home guard forever. Which shall I choose? Which would you choose?"

EMBROIDERED LETTER ON HOUSEHOLD LINEN

Many Suggestions Are Made for Novelties in Artistic Initials.

"Do you try to introduce some novelty into the embroidered initials on household linen?" a harassed housewife of artistic tendencies said to me recently. Well, here are a few suggestions. Besides the traditional English and script letters, there are long French or Venetian letters; squat, rounded Chinese ones, with the long run into each other, giving the entire name of the owner in as little space as the initials or monogram usually takes up; thin, square, willow letters; long, pointed old Irish ones. The assortment is almost endless; and any book on illuminating and lettering will give you a further pattern for the embroiderer.

Besides, the letters may be worked in various ways--in outline, shaded, or with any combination of these. The really original needleworker will take time to exhaust the lettering possibilities that lie all about her if she will but look about and adapt what she sees to the capabilities of her needle and her art.

PRICE OF BUTTER DROPS TWO CENTS

In spite of the prediction made several weeks ago by the market men, that butter would not ease up again until spring, the market today shows a drop of from 1 1/2 to 2 cents a pound on all grades of creamery butter.

This exceeds process or renovated butter, which is not rightfully classed a creamery product. The dealers do not attempt to explain the drop, and maintain that the conditions which produced the series of advances beginning about six weeks ago still prevail. They further declare that they expect another week will show prices back at the highest figures, if not surpassing them.

Wholesale quotations are now, fancy, 32 cents; high grade, 32 cents; and thirds, 31 cents a pound in the tubs. Put butter in the same grades is 1 cent higher. The rest of the market remains unchanged. Eggs still remain at 27 and 28 cents wholesale for nearby Virginia and poultry at 18 and 19 cents a pound.

The produce market is exceptionally fine and the prices remain reasonable.

USEFUL ARTICLES FOR THE NEW BABY

Things That May Be Made or Embroidered By Aunt or Friend.

There are many things which can be embroidered or entirely made by the clever aunt or best friend of the new arrival's mother.

Usually they should be in white, though pink for a boy and blue for a girl are also sanctioned.

One of the best gifts is a carriage cover of union linen, embroidered in a flower design and with a huge bow of ribbon at one side.

Then there are carriage parasols of fine linen or bastin, with scalloped ruffles and ribbon bindings.

And little linen booties, washable, with an edging of Valenciennes lace and a ribbon bow below the embroidered strap.

Baby armlets or sock garters of ribbon elastic edged with gathered lace are easily made and very pretty.

DAILY FASHION TALK TO TIMES READERS

Cost of This Garment in Two Materials

CROSS-BARRED LAWN.
Six yards of cross-barred lawn, at 15c yard.....\$1.01
Three yards of ribbon, 5c yard......35
One embroidery pattern......10
Total.....\$1.39

NAINSOOK.
Three and three-eighths yards of nainsook, 15c yard.....\$0.47
Three yards of ribbon, 5c yard......15
Total......62

THE really dainty woman may economize on her new and only tailor suit, or her fall hat, but she usually finds some way in which to indulge her taste for fine lingerie. By "fine" is not meant elaborate. Time was, I know, when the term fine lingerie bespoke yards of lace and ribbon. But now it means the sheerest material, the most exquisite hand embroidery and scalloped edges, and a touch here and there of dainty, but really handsome lace.

Today I am giving you such a piece of lingerie in a simple, but beautiful, nightgown, made in one piece, with the sleeves Oriental in style. The garment is easily made and fashionable, consequently it fulfills all the requirements. It can be finished with hand embroidery, as in this instance, or with insertions of lace or embroidery. It can be made just as illustrated without the openings in the sleeves and it will be found appropriate for all lingerie materials. It is made in one piece, and there are only under-arm seams to be sewed up. Nothing could be simpler or easier, yet the result is entirely satisfactory. Embroidery also makes a dainty finish, but lace insets are very pretty, and two or three rows within the neck edge and on the sleeves, in combination with lace



edging, will make a most attractive gown, involving less labor. For the medium size will be required 6 yards of material 27 inches wide, or 3 1/2 yards 36 inches wide, or 4 1/2 yards wide. A May Mantion pattern, 654, cut in three sizes, small 24 or 26, large 28 or 30, and large 32 or 34, will be required. This pattern may be purchased at Goldenberg's.

Daily Horoscope

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

Wednesday, September 14, 1910.

Today shall honor be a mighty arm for thee.

THE Sun rules today in a position mighty for those who are strong in fidelity and truth, at whatever worldly cost. The planet shines for courage in well-doing, adherence to principle, bravery in word and deed, and generosity to friend and foe.

It marks the day as an auspicious one to ask favors and to seek employment. Those in high places should prove affable and helpful. Astrology holds the time particularly auspicious for dealing with persons requiring summary authority, such as magistrates.

Travel is good under the signs. There is a fair augury for success in commercial negotiations, the dishonorable and continued prosperity are augured by the signs for matters well begun this day.

Employers should be on the alert for this is likely to prove a time of sudden and unexpected opportunity. Mercury favors writings, printing, circulating and all forms of announcement or statement, whether by type or tongue.

Agents, canvassers, promoters, salespeople, representatives of all kinds, and all others whose business it is to convince customers, should push the good advantage of the hours.

In the household the sign is good for baking and for anything concerned with dough.

Persons with this birth-date are under aspects that are held to give energetic, intensely practical spirits, but the subject often suffer from an over-development of the money-making sense.

Children born under stars that promise success in such operations as building, farming, engineering or mining.

SOME WAYS TO HOLD THE VEIL IN PLACE

Method Is Given Which Saves Veil With Very Little Trouble.

A number of clever expedients have been devised to hold a veil snugly under the chin without giving an ugly line.

Here is one method which saves the veil also and involves hardly any trouble. Get the narrowest kind of round elastic, the same color as the veil (pink for a colored veil) and whip it over the extreme edge of the veil, taking up only a single thread all around.

Include any cut edges, but afterward pare them off neatly with a small pair of scissors. Fasten in back with a tight knot.

The veil is slightly gathered on the elastic, fits nicely under chin and over hat, and stretches when it is raised. It seems the best solution of a vexing problem of dress.

One girl has conceived the idea of running narrow heading around the bottom and threading it with baby ribbon which she pins at back. Both heading and ribbon are, of course, of the color of the veil, and fasten under the chin, so as to be inconspicuous. She finds this a solution of the veil problem with a low-necked blouse, as her veil never looks either untidy or bulky.

NEW COLOR COMBINATIONS.

The latest in color combinations is a dark red and a rather bright blue so combined as to give the effect of the modish purple. This is very smart indeed, but be careful not to trim with either of these colors; black is the best, or some neutral shade.

Easy as Sliding Down Hill To get clear of coffeeills, Change to well-made

POSTUM "There's a Reason"

TIMES INQUIRY COLUMN

Error in Printing.

Bernard E. Grady--The mistake to which you refer in the poem by Ella Wheeler Wilcox is not a grammatical error on the part of the author, but was due to an error in the printing.

Orphan Asylums.

Mrs. Isabel Drisko, Herndon, Va.--The following is a partial list of orphan asylums and homes here in Washington: Children's Country Home, Grant road; German Orphan Asylum, Good Hope road; Washington City Orphan Asylum, Fourteenth and S streets; Working Boys' Home and Children's Aid Association, 236 C street northwest. Write to the Children's Board of Guardians, Municipal Building, Washington, and they will be able to help you in placing the children of whom you write me.

Blackberry Wine.

L. P. B.--Here is the recipe you request for making blackberry wine or cordial:

Two pounds sugar, 1/2 ounce ground cinnamon, 1/2 ounce of ground allspice, 1/2 ounce of ground nutmeg, 4 ounce of ground cloves, 1 pint of 4th proof brandy, 2 quarts of blackberry juice.

Boil the juice, sugar, and spices two hours. Strain. Then add immediately the brandy. Bottle while hot. Cork, seal, and set away.

FALL HATS HAVE SCARFS TO MATCH

Long Clinging Effect Blends Costume and Headwear With Good Effect.

Every autumn hat which is being displayed in the shops of Washington has a scarf to match.

A long clinging scarf of satin or velvet or chiffon which ends in big tassels and which flung about the shoulders blends costume and hat together with a charm that attracts even the most casual observer.

One shop has an attractive one of these new scarves in a deep sapphire shade velvet edged with black with a black satin lining. It is almost warm enough for a wrap for the early fall.

Another is a long head of velvet and satin that matches it offers a vision of a charming afternoon costume.

A feature for the evening is shown by one which displayed in another street window, where the fast approaching autumn season is bringing out the latest things from Paris. It is of black chiffon, and chignon in the prevailing Persian design, the latter gleaming through the black, while the long silken tassels of black have threads of silver running through them.

These scarves may, according to Dame Fashion, be worn thrown cavalierly about the throat, or may be dropped over the shoulders to accentuate the long line of throat and arm.

LOCAL MENTION.

Credit Prices At Grogan's--are marked in plain figures on every piece of Furniture. Comparison will prove them as low as you can find in any cash store.

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Chats With the Puzzlers

GOOD morning, Miss Carroll. I just want to ask if you are overwhelmed with solutions this week? These were the laughing words with which some unknown puzzler greeted me over the telephone today before I had time to open my desk and get settled for the day's work. And because a puzzle editor has to be a truthful woman, I was compelled to laugh back and say:

"Well, the puzzlers have gotten more than they bargained for this week. I fear. Solutions are not by any means plentiful in this office yet. But they're coming. I know, for I've had reassuring little notes from scores of puzzlers, who say they're working away, and intend to succeed at puzzle solving if not at prize winning."

And, you all, puzzlers, it may be interesting to know that you have a chance at the prizes, and probably will have for the next two or three days to come. The winners of the first, second, and third prizes will win five, three, and two dollars respectively. Remember that the contest closes Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

It is true that the present week's puzzle is more difficult than any you have had. But last week's was easier, and so I chose this somewhat difficult one for this week's contest. It is standard. At any rate, you have the

List of the Locoed Familiar Quotations

1. Lend tall Levi's swell hat.
2. What, he won with the fold of tin.
3. N. V. R. The bear ate nettle.
4. Dick, chop the loaf of B. L.
5. D. S. does not wed R.
6. M. a dare has a charm.
7. I. O. Morsend Co., Paris, a sou.
8. Fact, N. R., his tent traitor is hung.
9. T. E. See the two stews.
10. Dan, Sis vexes Etna S.
11. O, lovely Meg, move D.
12. S. K. See what a steam.
13. O. Fa, you look feeble.
14. A guard sees Job.
15. Alta Strong is no home songster.
16. No reward is for traps but pins.
17. Yes, S. H., they bet on politics.
18. R. E., never own a fault.
19. Their work is in the Hotel St.

consolation of knowing that a difficult one is far more worth the solving. So, here's good luck to you, one and all.

THIN WEAVE SATIN FOR SMALL WRAPS

Colored Mantles and Cloaks Also Are Worn, in Brilliant Colors.

The smartest wraps seen at the fashionable resorts, at restaurants, and theaters are fashioned of exquisitely soft and lustrous satin of thinnest weave.

These for the most part are of black, lined with the most delectable colors, as cerise, old blue, turquoise, old gold, lemon, or orchid. Foulard patterns, Persian and pompadour designs are also favored when a figured lining is desired, and stand out boldly from black wraps.

Colored mantles and cloaks are also worn in brilliant colors, toned down with black velvet, white, cream, and ecru lace with touches of a handsome Oriental embroidery glistening with gold threads.

The loose Mouselineur cloaks, like those of cavaliers, are mostly of black satin, lined with silk of a radiant hue. While the abbe cloak, similar to that sometimes worn by a priest, is a very graceful garment in a brilliant color softly toned with touches of black.

Exquisite wraps of lavender, pale blue, and dull pink are trimmed with cream or yellow lace relieved with gold and silver embroidery matching the long flowing cords and tassels.

For older matrons, dowagers, the most sumptuous satin brocades, with big velvet flowers, are trimmed with Venetian lace.

Very subtle and bewitching are the colored satins, brilliant and somber colored, veiled with chiffon or lace, set off with bands of net worked with aluminum or gold embroidery.

The draped models are by far more stunning than the blacker styles, straight from the shoulders. However, many women of conservative tastes prefer the more simple lines.



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Other CLICQUOT beverages: Birch Beer Root Beer Sarsaparilla Lemon Soda Blood Orange.

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PLEASING MATERIALS FOR NEEDLEWORKERS

New Cloths Are Prepared to Relieve Linen and Canvas Monotony.

The needleworker who is tired to death of the same old linen and canvas for fancy work will welcome the new and attractive materials which have been brought out this year for the working of such articles as pillowslips, table covers, centerpieces, and blouses.

One of these is an ecru fabric, closely resembling rib, but cross-ribbed with a much finer cord. The ground is the color of unbleached linen, but it has irregular lengthwise stripes of a darker ecru shade.

Another material is apparently rather loosely woven, but is kept firm by the arrangement of the cross threads in a honeycomb. Still a third has a slightly irregular plain weave.

Soft white canvas cloth in a basket weave is another novelty, and so is brown linen for the purposes of embroidery.

All of these materials may be had plain or stamped in various designs at any notion or fancy work shop, and offer endless possibilities for the larger and freer forms of embroidery.

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